

In the Claims

Applicants have submitted a new complete claim set with insertions and deletions to the amended claims indicated by underlining and strikeouts, respectively.

Please amend pending claims 1, 9, 43, and 60 as noted below.

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of
 - (a) nucleic acid molecules which hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of ~~nucleotides 119-1831 of SEQ ID NO:38 and SEQ ID NO:43, and which code for a sarcoma associated gene product, wherein the stringent hybridization conditions are hybridization at 65°C in hybridization buffer (3.5 x SSC, 0.02% Ficoll, 0.02% polyvinyl pyrrolidone, 0.02% Bovine Serum Albumin, 25mM NaH₂PO₄ (pH 7), 0.5% SDS, 2mM EDTA) and wherein SSC is 0.15M sodium chloride/0.015M sodium citrate, pH 7; SDS is sodium dodecyl sulphate; and EDTA is ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid,~~
(b) nucleic acid molecules that differ from the nucleic acid molecules of SEQ ID NO:38 or SEQ ID NO:43 in codon sequence due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, and
(c) complements of (a) and (b),
wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule excludes nucleic acid molecules consisting of the nucleotide sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:46 in GenBank accession number AA213817.

2-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:40, nucleotides 119-1831 of SEQ ID NO:38, and nucleotides 79-1659 of SEQ ID NO:43.

9. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a unique fragment of the nucleotide sequence set forth as nucleotides 1-1997 of SEQ ID NO:38 between 12 and 1996 nucleotides in length, which encodes a portion of SEQ ID NO:39, wherein the portion of SEQ ID NO:39 is between 7 and 100 amino acids in length,

(b) a unique fragment of the nucleotide sequence set forth as nucleotides 1-2442 of SEQ ID NO:43 between 12 and 2441 nucleotides in length, which encodes a portion of SEQ ID NO:44, wherein the portion of SEQ ID NO:44 is between 7 and 100 amino acids in length, and

(c) complements of (a) and (b), wherein the unique fragment excludes nucleic acid molecules completely composed of the nucleotide sequences set forth as SEQ ID NOs: 45 and 46 of GenBank accession numbers U89672 or AA213817.

10-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented) An expression vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of any of claims 1, 8 or 9 operably linked to a promoter.

19. (Previously Presented) An isolated host cell transformed or transfected with the expression vector of claim 18.

20-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising:

an antisense nucleic acid which binds *in vitro* to a tumor associated nucleic acid that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:38 and SEQ ID NO:43, and reduces the expression of the tumor associated nucleic acid *in vitro*, wherein the stringent hybridization conditions are hybridization at 65°C in hybridization buffer (3.5 x SSC, 0.02% Ficoll, 0.02% polyvinyl pyrrolidone, 0.02% Bovine Serum Albumin, 25mM NaH₂PO₄ (pH 7), 0.5% SDS, 2mM EDTA) and wherein SSC is 0.15M sodium chloride/0.015M sodium citrate, pH 7; SDS is sodium dodecyl sulphate; and EDTA is ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid.

41. (Previously presented) A kit for detecting the presence of the expression of a tumor associated polypeptide precursor which encodes a portion of SEQ ID NO:39, comprising a first isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a 12-32 nucleotide contiguous segment of SEQ ID NO:38, and a second isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a 12-32 nucleotide contiguous segment of the complement of SEQ ID NO:38, wherein the contiguous segments are nonoverlapping, and wherein the portion of SEQ ID NO:39 is at least 8 amino acids in length.

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Currently Amended) A kit for detecting the presence of the expression of a tumor associated polypeptide precursor encoded by SEQ ID NO:43, comprising a first isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a 12-32 nucleotide contiguous segment of SEQ ID NO:43, and a second isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a 12-32 nucleotide contiguous segment of the complement of SEQ ID NO:43, wherein the contiguous segments are nonoverlapping, and wherein the first and second isolated nucleic acid molecules exclude nucleic acid molecules consisting of segments of the nucleotide sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:46 in GenBank accession number AA213817.

44-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a tumor associated polypeptide comprising
expressing in an expression system the expression vector of claim 18, and
isolating the tumor associated polypeptide or a fragment thereof from the expression system.

51. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule comprises the nucleic acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:1.

52. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule comprises the nucleic acid sequence set forth as nucleotides 119-1831 of SEQ ID NO:38.

53. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule comprises the nucleic acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:38.

54. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule comprises the nucleic acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:40.

55. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule comprises the nucleic acid sequence set forth as nucleotides 79-1659 of SEQ ID NO:43.

56. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule comprises the nucleic acid sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:43.

57. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 41, wherein the first and the second isolated nucleic acid molecules are constructed and arranged to selectively amplify at least a portion of an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:38, wherein the portion of SEQ ID NO:38 is at least 24 nucleotides in length.

58. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 43, wherein the first and the second isolated nucleic acid molecules are constructed and arranged to selectively amplify at least a portion of an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:43, wherein the portion of SEQ ID NO:43 is at least 24 nucleotides in length.

59. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a tumor associated polypeptide comprising

culturing the isolated host cell of claim 19, and

isolating the tumor associated polypeptide or a fragment thereof from the expression system.

60. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of

(a) nucleic acid molecules which hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:1, and which code for a sarcoma associated gene product, wherein the stringent hybridization conditions are hybridization at 65°C in hybridization buffer (3.5 x SSC, 0.02% Ficoll, 0.02% polyvinyl pyrrolidone, 0.02% Bovine Serum Albumin, 25mM NaH₂PO₄ (pH 7), 0.5% SDS, 2mM EDTA) and wherein SSC is 0.15M sodium chloride/0.015M sodium citrate, pH 7; SDS is sodium dodecyl sulphate; and EDTA is ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid,

(b) nucleic acid molecules that differ from the nucleic acid molecules of (a) in codon sequence due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, and

(c) complements of (a) and (b),

wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule excludes nucleic acid molecules completely composed of the nucleotide sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:47 of GenBank accession number W86797.